



RESEARCH LABORATORIES, INC.

October 19, 1983

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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
SPOKANE REGIONAL OFFICE

Spokane Steel Foundry
c/o Tenold & Dunham
North 3808 Sullivan Road
Spokane Industrial Park
Spokane, Washington 99216

Dear Sirs:

At your request we have reviewed the Department of Ecology order #DE83-409 as well as the DOE Memorandums concerning DOE samples #132087, 132088, 132089 and 132090 collected May 11, 1983 at the Spokane Steel Foundry.

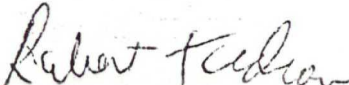
BioMed Research Laboratories is a certified analytical chemistry and toxicology laboratory. We can perform the testing necessary to determine the probable cause of fish toxicity found in samples corresponding to DOE sample numbers 132088 and 132090.

We propose to test the samples for metals not included in the normal EP toxic metals list. The testing will be done on a worst case basis; that is on materials prepared under EP toxic extraction with dilute acetic acid.

We feel the most likely metals to look for are zinc, copper, nickel and manganese. The first two metals are toxic to fish at very low levels. The second two metals are likely to be found in steel products. We will also measure calcium and magnesium levels. These two elements have a moderating effect on the toxicity of heavy metals on fish.

An ash weight will also be run to ensure that the principle constituents are inorganic. If not, another approach might possibly be needed.

Sincerely,


Robert Tedrow,
Production Director

